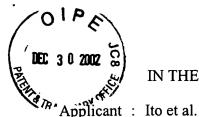
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1655

Serial No.: 09/451,666 Examiner: Betty J. Forman, Ph.D.

Filed : November 30, 1999

Title : METHODS FOR PRODUCING BIOCHIPS (AMENDED)

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

JAN 0 6 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 2327

P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed August 09, 2002, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks set forth herein. The response was initially due November 09, 2002. Applicants herein submit a petition for a two month extension of time to January 09, 2003, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

The following documents are also enclosed herewith:

- Postcard
- Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449 and reference
- Petition for extension of time, check
- "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made"

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202.

Date of Deposit

Signature

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate